TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 1, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 27 totaled an estimated 17.0 billion ton-miles, 5.8 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 43 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 770.9 billion ton-miles, 12.5 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 27 totaled 371,345, down 8.0 percent from last year, but 0.3 percent above the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 16.6 percent in the East, 2.2 percent in the South and 5.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 18 of the 21 commodity groups declined. Coal loadings were down 14,399 cars (13.1 percent). Twelve of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 20 totaled 57,429 cars, up 12.9 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 93,461 trailers and/or containers, 4.5 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 42 weeks of the year was 2,159,211 cars, 15.0 percent higher than last year, and 3,704,478 trailers and/or containers, up 13.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/27/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Oct. 27, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,039	D	6,223	20.6	I	1,220	5.1
Other farm products	4,745	D	880	15.6	D	19	0.4
Metallic ores	13,396	D	4,327	24.4	D	281	2.1
Coal	95,124	D	14,399	13.1	I	545	0.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,600	I	2,381	21.2	D	372	2.7
Nonmetallic minerals	12,212	D	1,125	8.4	I	1,101	9.0
Grain mill products	10,582	D	851	7.4	I	38	0.4
Food and kindred products	11,283	D	939	7.7	I	107	0.9
Primary forest products	13,249	D	1,756	11.7	I	115	0.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,197	D	687	8.7	D	81	1.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,034	I	85	0.6	I	592	3.9
Chemicals and allied products	23,449	D	1,320	5.3	D	665	2.8
Petroleum products	4,563	D	182	3.8	D	84	1.8
Stone, clay and glass products	10,875	D	857	7.3	D	246	2.3
Coke	4,963	D	217	4.2	I	59	1.2
Metals and products	7,903	D	1,490	15.9	D	101	1.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,642	D	621	3.1	D	498	2.5
Waste and scrap materials	8,909	D	174	1.9	D	578	6.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,960	D	1,008	11.2	I	238	3.0
All other carloads	62,425	I	2,258	3.8	D	23	0.0
LCL traffic	195	D	67	25.6	D	44	22.6
Total Cars Loaded	371,345	D	32,399	8.0	I	1,023	0.3
Corresponding week of 1983	403,744						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (43 weeks)	17,026,938	15,604,896	I 9.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
42 weeks ended October 20	753.9	667.1	I 13.0
Week ended October 27,	17.0	18.0	D 5.8
43 weeks cumulative	770.9	685.2	I 12.5

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